

Mark Tan IN LAS VEGAS

STRIP HOPPING...WILL IT OPEN, WON'T IT OPEN; everybody's waiting to see and hear the last minute word on Donn Arden's superspectacle "HALLELUJAH, HOLLYWOOD!" Last week, it was official that "Hallelujah" would DEFINITELY premiere on April 19 at the new Ziegfeld Theater at the MGM Grand Hotel. As of presstime, it was definitely UNOFFICIAL that the opening would be delayed once more til April 26....Both MILTON BERLE and DANNY THOMAS have been duly announced as the Sands headliner opening June 26, with Australian songstress DIANA TRASK. At last reports, it was going to be Berle. The Milton you never knew existed comes to surface in Berle's new autobiography being released by Delacorte this fall....JAMES DARREN spends the next couple of weeks screening new songs for both his return date at the Sahara in May, and for an upcoming recording session in New York....Femme impressionist CRAIG RUSSELL who just had one of his favorite subjects, CAROL CHANNING, ringsiding nightly at his show in New York, opens May 22 at the MGM Lion's Den....Songbird JEANNIE THOMAS and her husband-conductor QUITMAN DENNIS quit the Vegas-scene for a while to take up recording residence in Nashville. Jeannie and her trio are currently winding their long, long stay at the Caesars Palace Cleopatra's Barge. Jeannie has some masters cut that have several disc companies interested, and Dennis has a new single out for Epic called "Call On Me" by Harmony. The busy and talented due will be missed by their many Vegas pals. Good luck in Nashville, and hurry home!....Beautiful busty blonde actress-comedienne-singer DYANNE THORNE (who by the by used to have an act with the above mentioned Jeannie Thomas a la Jane Russell & Marilyn Monroe) now has six movies being readied for summer and fall release. One is called "Blood Sabbath", a horror flick, and another has Dyanne playing a ghost-ess in a Swedish castle, a comedy-horror. Dyanne's just back from New York where she did a new tv commercial and is in town hallowing Strip chums for a brief holiday....Fellow-Visitor scribe SUZANNE VEGAS, back from her exotic dancing stint in Los Angeles at the Coronet, where she had dozens of show biz pals in to catch her new act. Now Suzanne is off to the Great Northwest and a theater date in Seattle....LESLIE UGGAMS, still glowing from her greatest Strip hit date with her new "Leslie Uggams at the Cotton Club" revue at the Flamingo, returns in June with an expanded version of her CC nostalgia.....

THE FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN MAY.....Don't miss the May parade of three of the most unique lady song stylists in show biz. DIANA ROSS opens May 9 at Caesars Palace; LENA HORNE headlines at the Sands opening May 8, and SHIRLEY BASSEY returns to the Las Vegas Hilton on May 7.....That same first week of May will also mark the return of THE CARPENTERS to the Riviera, JIM BAILEY to the Thunderbird, JACK JONES to the Flamingo, and JIMMY DEAN to the Desert Inn....TOM JONES, now on his annual American tour, returns to Caesars Palace May 22. Opening for and accompanying Jones will be THE CELEBRATION.....

'ROUND TOWN.....MOTOWN'S mammoth "Monster Act", THE JACKSON FIVE, now in their sensational Las Vegas bow at the MGM Grand Hotel. Motown continues its musical take-over of the Strip with THE SUPREMES opening April 25, with JOEL GREY, at the Riviera, and GLADYS KNIGHT & THE PIPS headlining next at the



ENTERTAINER WAYNE NEWTON, HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF LIVESTOCK AUCTION SALES COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA YOUTH FAIR WISHES GOOD LUCK TO CARMEN WOOLEY, 15 YEAR OLD VALLEY HIGH STUDENT AND LOCAL 4-H BRUSH TOPPERS CHAPTER MEMBER, SHOWN WITH HER 990 POUND STEER, C. I. MOOFER, ONE OF THE PRIME ANIMALS TO BE AUCTIONED AT THE YOUTH FAIR LIVESTOCK AUCTION AND SALE AT THE CONVENTION CENTER, SATURDAY, APRIL 20 AT 7 PM. OTHERS ARE LOCAL MEMBERS OF THE 4-H CLUBS AND FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA.

Flamingo on April 24.....Frantically funny fake femme and celeb mime, MR. LYNNE CARTER, reportedly set for a summer return to the Vegas Strip. Carter, who is now a hotel-cabaret owner himself (he bought the 300 year-old Pilgrim House in Provincetown Rhode Island) is booking his own club for the summer so he can get away and back to Vegas. Carter's hilarious carbons of stars like MARLENE DIETRICH, BETTE DAVIS, PEARL BAILEY, etc. make him a definite "must see" if, when and ever he sets a return date....DEBBIE REYNOLDS, BOBBIE GENTRY & JULIET PROWSE who'll be the major alternating stars at the Desert Inn from now until December, all got together at Debbie's splashy D.I. opening. The gals should figure out a way to mount their lavish and spectacular scenics on a three-sided revolving stage, then all the stagehands would have to do to "dial" D, B or J....THE FOUR ACES, always such a solid favorite here at the Sahara Casbar, are one of those rare acts from the era of the 1950's and 60's who have continued to work nearly every week of every year! With the nostalgia boom still going strong, the Aces recording company are now planning a re-issue of all the great million sellers of the group....Belated Happy Birthdays to Aries-born - Canada's BOBBY CURTOLA just closed at the Sands Regency Room and the Flamingo's JOHNNY TILLOTSON both celebrated with parties at their hotels on April 16....THE RICHARD CURTIS SHOW, a Vegas-born act managed by another Aries, ALLAN CHAPIN, signed for a five week gig in Regina, Canada. Curtis also has bookings upcoming this summer in Detroit, Chicago, Dallas and Denver....One of the top show bands in the Mid-west, a group called THE FLIPPERS out of Lawrence, Kansas, will be making a trek westward for a special showcase perf next month to show their talents to bookers, buyers and agents.....

HAVE YOU HEARD.....that the Tropicana will be IF YOUR BUSINESS CANNOT AFFORD TO ADVERTISE THEN ADVERTISE IT FOR SALE IN THE ISRAELITE.

BIG BAND DANCING AT CAESARS APR. 19

The big band sound is back! And Caesars Palace has the band wagon going again with a series of big band dance nights.

Les Brown and his Band of Renown will be featured on Friday, April 19, in the resort hotel's Colosseum ball room. There will be four hours of continuous dancing to the big band sound, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in an atmosphere that's the way we were.. and the way we are again.

Tickets will be \$5.00 per person and will be available at the door. Brown, one of the all-time great band leaders, and his renowned group have been the symbol




(LES)

of danceable music throughout the continents. Furter, they are one of the few to bridge the musical gap for all ages and generations.

reopening its Superstar Theater in May??..... that the Superstar's superstar MITZI GAYNOR has signed an exclusive pact with Warner Brothers for films, television specials and recording??.....that popular funnyman MICKEY MANNERS will be returning to the Strip, at the MGM Lion's Den, in June? Mickey, who is one of Joey Bishop's best pals and favorite comedians, was last here at the Sands....that Australian costume designer WARDEN NEAL (who does the wardrobe for Johnny Mann and his Singers, the Dick Clark Rock and Roll Years tv-er, etc) is putting the finishing stitches on the new costumes for Minsky's Burlesque opening this month at the Playboy Hotel in Miami??.....that singer-composer-conductor RICHARD BELLIS - who used to be a child film star and could be a performer in his own right - is conducting the Nat Brandwynne orchestra for the Vegas debut of SALLY (All in the Family) STRUTHERS, at Caesars Palace??.....

WEEKEND WANDERERS.....THE JACKSON FIVE at the MGM Grand.....MARTY ALLEN & newcomer DYANNA WHITMAN at the Flamingo, for one week only!.....DEBBIE at the Desert Inn with her cast of talented singers-dancers, and featuring singers STEVE LARDAS, SHERRY WILLIAMS & SHARON 'Muffy' HENDRIX in a salute to old Broadway.....GLEN CAMPBELL & McLEAN 'Mash' STEVENSON at the Las Vegas Hilton.....BRECK WALL-JOE PETERSON'S "Bottoms Up" at the Circus Circus Hippodrome with producer-star Wall back from his Hawaii engagement at the Pagoda Hotel.....



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